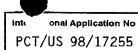


Inte onal Application No PCT/US 98/17255

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 6 C12N15/12 C07k C07K14/47 C07K16/18 A01K67/027 C12Q1/68 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) C12N C07K A01K Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. X "CONSTRUCTION OF A 1-MB SOOD R ET AL: 6,9 RESTRICTION-MAPPED COSMID CONTIG CONTAINING THE CANDIDATE REGION FOR THE FAMILIAL MEDITERRANEAN FEVER LOCUS (MEFV) ON CHROMOSOME 16P13.3" GENOMICS, vol. 42, no. 1, 15 May 1997, pages 83-95, XP002066933 see table 1 P,X THE INTERNATIONAL FMF CONSORTIUM: 1-4."ANCIENT MISSENSE MUTATIONS IN A NEW 6 - 16MEMBER OF THE RORET GENE FAMILYARE LIKELY 18-20, TO CAUSE FAMILIAL MEDITERRANEAN FEVER" 28-30, 32-34, vol. 90, no. 4, 22 August 1997, pages 36 - 43797-807, XP002066936 see page 800 -/--X Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents : "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docudocument referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 22 January 1999 03/02/1999 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijiswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Smalt, R



		FC1/U3 90/1/255
	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Ρ,Χ	FRENCH FMF CONSORTIUM: "A CANDIDATE GENE FOR FAMILIAL MEDITERRANEAN FEVER" NATURE GENETICS, vol. 17, no. 1, 1 September 1997, pages 25-31, XP002066935 see the whole document	1-4, 6-16, 18-20, 28-30, 32-34, 36-43
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P , X	BERNOT, A. ET AL.: "A transcriptional map of the FMF region." GENOMICS, vol. 50, 1998, pages 147-160, XP002090815 see the whole document -& DATABASE EMBL - R55U031 Entry Hsaj03147, Acc.No. AJ003147, 22 January 1998 BERNOT, A.: "Homo sapiens complete genomic sequence between D16S3070 and D16S3275, containing Familial Mediterranean Fever gene disease" XP002090820 From nt 208600-215910	8
°,X	BERNOT, A. ET AL.: "Non-founder mutations in the MEFV gene establish this gene as the cause of familial mediterranean fever (FMF)" HUMAN MOLECULAR GENETICS, vol. 7, no. 8, August 1998, pages 1317-25, XP002090816 see table 1	12-16, 18-20
T ·	MCKUSICK, V.A. ET AL.: "Mediterranean fever, familial; MEFV"	*
	NCBI - ONLINE MENDELIAN INHERITANCE IN MAN, XP002090817 http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/htbin-post/Omim/dispmim?249100	
	see the whole document	
		
		j.
		*



rnational application No.

PCT/US 98/17255

Box i	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)
This Inte	ernational Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
1.	Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. X	Claims Nos.: 5,17 because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically: Claims 5 and 17 have not been searched because none of the claimed sequences are amino acid sequences.
3	Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box II	Observations where unity of invention is lacking(Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This Inte	ernational Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
1.	As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2.	As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
e	
3.	As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
a	
4.	No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Remar	The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
	No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.



From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

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NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

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10	

United States Patent and Trademark

Office (Box PCT) Crystal Plaza 2

Washington, DC 20231 ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE

Date of mailing (day/month/year)
26 May 1999 (26.05.99)

in its capacity as elected Office

International application No. PCT/US98/17255

International filing date (day/month/year)
20 August 1998 (20.08.98)

Priority date (day/month/year)

11613.24WO01

Applicant's or agent's file reference

21 August 1997 (21.08.97)

Applicant

KASTNER, Daniel, L. et al

1.	The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:	
1		
	X in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:	
1	22 March 1999 (22.03.99)	
İ	in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:	
1		
1	×	
2.	2. The election X was	
1	was not	
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1	made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within Rule 32.2(b).	the time limit under
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The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Authorized officer

Lazar Joseph Panakal

Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35



PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file references 11613.24W001	FOR FURTHER ACTION		ansmittal of International S as well as, where applical	
nternational application No.	International filing date (day/month/year) (F	Earliest) Priority Date (day	//month/year)
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according to Article 18. A cop This International Search Rep	port has been prepared by this Internat by is being transmitted to the Internation port consists of a total of4	nal Bureau sheets.	y and is transmitted to the	applicant
X It is also accompan	nied by a copy of each prior art docume	nt cited in this report.		
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1. X Certain claims we	re found unsearchable (see Box I).			
2 Unity of invention	is lacking (see Box II).	. *		
2. Unity of invention	is lacking (see Box II).			
iiitemational search		lication. parately from the internation by a statement to the ef	ional application, ifect that it did not include irnational application as fil	
	Transcribed by this Authority			
	Transanzes by and manienty			
4. With regard to the title,	the text is approved as submit	tted by the applicant		
	the text has been established	by this Authority to read	as follows:	
THE PYRIN GENE	AND MUTANTS THEREOF, N	WHICH CAUSE FAN	ILIAL MEDITERRA	ANEAN FEVER
		· ·		
With regard to the abstra	F			
	the text is approved as submi		L. V. L. Maria A. Maradha ao ita	
*	the text has been established Box III. The applicant may, wi Search Report, submit common	thin one month from the		
6. The figure of the drawing	gs to be published with the abstract is:			
Figure No	as suggested by the applicant	•	X None	of the figures.
	because the applicant failed to		, , , , ,	
	because this figure better cha	racterizes the invention.		



International application No.

PCT/US 98/17255

Box I	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)
This Inte	ernational Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
1.	Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. X	Claims Nos.: 5,17 because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
	Claims 5 and 17 have not been searched because none of the claimed sequences are amino acid sequences.
3	Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box II	Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This Inte	ernational Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
1.	As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2.	As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3.	As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4.	No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
Remark	The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
	No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

ernational Application No
PCT/US 98/17255

CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER PC 6 C12N15/12 C07K A01K67/027 C07K14/47 C07K16/18 C12Q1/68 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 6 C12N C07K A01K Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category ° χ SOOD R ET AL: "CONSTRUCTION OF A 1-MB 6,9 RESTRICTION-MAPPED COSMID CONTIG CONTAINING THE CANDIDATE REGION FOR THE FAMILIAL MEDITERRANEAN FEVER LOCUS (MEFV) ON CHROMOSOME 16P13.3" GENOMICS, vol. 42, no. 1, 15 May 1997, pages 83-95, XP002066933 see table 1 P, X THE INTERNATIONAL FMF CONSORTIUM: 1-4"ANCIENT MISSENSE MUTATIONS IN A NEW 6-16 MEMBER OF THE RORET GENE FAMILYARE LIKELY 18-20.TO CAUSE FAMILIAL MEDITERRANEAN FEVER" 28 - 30. 32 - 34. vol. 90, no. 4, 22 August 1997, pages 36-43 797-807, XP002066936 see page 800 Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the citation or other special reason (as specified) document is combined with one or more other such docu document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled other means in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but "&" document member of the same patent family later than the priority date claimed Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 03/02/1999 22 January 1999 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Smalt, R Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
	Gillian S. Gooding That manufactures appropriate of the following passages	
Ρ,Χ	FRENCH FMF CONSORTIUM: "A CANDIDATE GENE FOR FAMILIAL MEDITERRANEAN FEVER" NATURE GENETICS, vol. 17, no. 1, 1 September 1997, pages 25-31, XP002066935 see the whole document	1-4, 6-16, 18-20, 28-30, 32-34, 36-43
	WATER VARION STATES	
P , X	BERNOT, A. ET AL.: "A transcriptional map of the FMF region." GENOMICS, vol. 50, 1998, pages 147-160, XP002090815 see the whole document -& DATABASE EMBL - R55U031 Entry Hsaj03147, Acc.No. AJ003147, 22 January 1998 BERNOT, A.: "Homo sapiens complete genomic sequence between D16S3070 and D16S3275, containing Familial Mediterranean Fever gene disease" XP002090820 From nt 208600-215910	8
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P , X	BERNOT, A. ET AL.: "Non-founder mutations in the MEFV gene establish this gene as the cause of familial mediterranean fever (FMF)" HUMAN MOLECULAR GENETICS, vol. 7, no. 8, August 1998, pages 1317-25, XP002090816	18-20
	see table 1	*
Т	MCKUSICK, V.A. ET AL.: "Mediterranean	X-
	fever, familial; MEFV" NCBI - ONLINE MENDELIAN INHERITANCE IN MAN, XP002090817	
	http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/htbin-post/Omi m/dispmim?249100 see the whole document	
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's	Or age	ent's file reference			•
GM5057	_		FOR FURTHER ACTIO		tification of Transmittal of International nary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
		lication No.	International filing date (day/n	onth/vear)	Priority date (day/month/year)
1		255	25408/1998		21/08/1997
Internation C12N15		ent Classification (IPC) or nat	ional classification and IPC		
Applicant					*
THE GO	VER	NMENT OF THE UNIT	ED STATES et al.		
and i	s tran	smitted to the applicant a		·	nternational Preliminary Examining Authorit
b (een a see R	mended and are the bas	is for this report and/or shee 7 of the Administrative Inst	ets containing	tion, claims and/or drawings which have rectifications made before this Authority r the PCT).
3. This	eport	contains indications relat	ing to the following items:		
11		Priority			e and the same of
III				, inventive st	ep and industrial applicability
IV		Lack of unity of inventio			
V	\boxtimes		der Afticle 35(2) with regard ns suporting such statemer		nventive step or industrial applicability;
VI		Certain documents cite	d		
VII		Certain defects in the in	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		
VIII	×	Certain observations on	the international applicatio	1	
Date of sub	missic	on of the demand	Dat	e of completion	of this report
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	exami Euro D-80	g address of the international ning authority: opean Patent Office 1298 Munich +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656	Ro	norized officer	AND STREET OF THE STREET OF TH

Telephone No. +49 89 2399 2554

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/US98/17255

í.	Basis	of the	e report
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1. This report has been drawn on the basis of (substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.):

	Des	scription, pages:						
	1-2	5	as originally filed					
	Cla	ims, No.:	*					
	3,5- 19-	-8,11,13-15,17, 47	as originally filed					
		4,9,10,12,16, 48-50	as received on	26/11/1999	with letter of	26/11/19	999	
	Dra	wings, sheets:						
	1/14	4-14/14	as originally filed					
2.	The	amendments have	e resulted in the cancellation	on of:				
		the description,	pages:					
		the claims,	Nos.:					
		the drawings,	sheets:					
3.			een established as if (some beyond the disclosure as f		nts had not been	made, since the	ey have) been
4.	Add	litional observation	s, if necessary:					

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/US98/17255

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

Claims 40-44, 46, 47

1. Statement

Novelty (N)

Yes: Claims 1-5, 9-50

No: Claims 6-8

Inventive step (IS)

Yes: Claims 1-5, 9-50

Claims 1-5, 9-50

No: Claims 6-8

Industrial applicability (IA)

Yes: Claims 1-39, 45, 48-50

No:

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

see separate sheet

phon

Citations 1.

The documents mentioned in the present International Preliminary Examination Report are numbered as in the search report, i.e. D1 corresponds to the first document of the search report etc.

The priority document pertaining to the present application was not available at the time of establishing this first written opinion. Hence, the current assessment is based on the assumption that all claims enjoy priority rights from the filing date of the priority document. If it later turns out that this assumption is incorrect, documents D2-D5 cited in the search report could become relevant to the assessment of whether the present application satisfies the criteria set forth in Article 33(1) PCT.

2. Reasoned statement on Novelty, Inventive Step and Industrial Applicability (Section V)

2.1 Novelty (Art.33(2) PCT)

D1 is the only presently relevant prior art. Said document discloses a contig of genomic clones spanning the 250 kb interval reported to contain the FMF gene. Fig.2 of D1 shows the extent of the clones, whichever one of which turns out to comprise the pyrin gene certainly being suitable in size for use as a probe. It can be assumed, unless proven otherwise by the applicant, that at least one of these clones comprises the coding sequence of pyrin (applicant is requested to indicate the position of MEFV on Fig.2 of D1). Certainly at least one of the clones will contain MEFV sequence, and could thus be employed as a probe.

Thus, D1 anticipates claims 6-8. The authorized authority sees no reason why it should not be possible to use a 1 MB fragment as a probe in hybridization experiments.

2.2 Inventive Step (Art.33(3) PCT)

Given that D1 represents the closest prior art, the isolation of the MEFV gene has

to be considered inventive. Mere knowledge of the approximate position of the gene (within a 250 kb range) does not enable the isolation of the gene, especially in the case where the nature (and thus sequence features) of the gene is not known, and no simple selection methods for the gene are available. Thus all clear claims which relate to this subject-matter and are formally novel will also be considered inventive:

2.3 Industrial Applicability (Art.33(4) PCT)

For the assessment of the present claims 40-44 (since they can be construed to include transgene therapy), 46 and 47 on the question whether they are industrially applicable, no unified criteria exist in the PCT. The patentability can also be dependent upon the formulation of the claims. The EPO, for example, does not recognize as industrially applicable the subject-matter of claims to the use of a compound in medical treatment, but may allow, however, claims to a known compound for first use in medical treatment and the use of such a compound for the manufacture of a medicament for a new medical treatment.

3. Certain observations (Section VIII)

3.1 Clarity (Art.6 PCT)

The terms "MEFV" and "pyrin" have been coined by the applicant and are thus arbitrary definitions not known by the skilled person. Hence, these terms have to be accompanied by technical information (i.e. sequences) when present in the claims. This problem applies to a large number of the claims. For example, claim 1 lacks any technical features and effectively merely claims what applicant set out to find, not the results of his work. Similarly, a skilled person does not know what the rfp(B30.2) domain of MEFV is. It does not suffice for such information to be present in the application documents - the claims should not contain arbitrary definitions.

Nucleic acid fragments and peptide fragments of MEFV or pyrin, respectively cannot be considered to solve an invention-related problem and consequently cannot be considered unitary when they are not linked by structural or functional

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY International application No. PCT/US98/17255 EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET

features. For example, claim 3 presumably can encompass any peptides resulting from the expression of a truncated MEFV gene. These will solve no problem and are not necessarily linked by common structural features. The same applies to the probes or primers of claim 6-10. Claim 3 is further considered to be problematic due to the open-ended definition of the DNA - a skilled person would have known how to isolate a 1MB piece of DNA comprising the pyrin mutant gene from an affected individual. Hence, the claim should be clarified as new claim 1 has been to avoid inventive step problems.

The level of stringency of hybridizations must be defined in the claims (e.g. claims 7 and 8).

Where amino acid positions are mentioned, it should be clear what sequence is being referred to so as to ensure that it is absolutely clear what the numbering refers to.

New claims

- 1. An isolated gene encoding only pyrin.
- 2. The gene of claim 1, comprising the coding sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, and variations thereof permitted by genetic code degeneracy.
- 4. The nucleic acid sequence of claim 3, comprising a mutant pyrin having an amino acid substitution in a rfp (B30.2) domain.
- 9. The nucleic acid primer of claim 6, wherein the primer is one of a pair of primers that amplifies MEFV.
- 10. The nucleic acid primer of claim 6, wherein the primer is one of a pair of primers that amplifies a nucleic acid sequence encoding a rfp (B30.2) domain of pyrin.
- 12. An amino acid sequence comprising a familial Mediterranean feverassociated mutant of pyrin.
- 16. The amino acid sequence of claim 12, wherein an amino acid substitution comprises a mutant selected from the group consisting of M680I, M694V, K695R, or V726A.
- 18. An amino acid sequence of pyrin comprising an rfp (B30.2) domain of pyrin.
- 48. Use of pyrin in the manufacture of a medicament for a medical treatment comprising producing pyrin in a host cell comprising transforming the host cell with a nucleic acid sequence encoding pyrin.
- 49. Use of the transgenic animal of claim 45 in a method of screening for a compound for use in medical treatment of FMF.
- 50. Use of the transgenic animal of claim 45 in a method of screening for a compound for use in medical treatment of inflammatory disease.



WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION International Bureau



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6:

C12N 15/12, C07K 14/47, 16/18, A01K

(11) International Publication Number:

WO 99/09169

67/027, C12Q 1/68

(43) International Publication Date:

25 February 1999 (25.02.99)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US98/17255

A1

(22) International Filing Date:

20 August 1998 (20.08.98)

(30) Priority Data:

60/056,217

21 August 1997 (21.08.97)

US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THE GOV-ERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA as represented by THE SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES [US/US]; Suite 325, 6011 Executive Boulevard, Rockville, MD 20852 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): KASTNER, Daniel, L [US/US]; 10112 Ashburton Lane, Bethesda, MD 20817 (US). AKSENTIJEVICH, Ivona [US/US]; 5719 Beech Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20817 (US). CENTOLA, Michael [US/US]; 915 Prospect Street, Tacoma Park, MD 20912 (US). DENG, Zuoming [CN/US]; Apartment 304, 18207 Lost Knife Circle, Gaithersburg, MD 20879 (US). SOOD, Raman [CA/US]; 10203 Nolan Drive, Rockville, MD 20850 (US). COLLINS, Francis, S. [US/US]; 5908 Tudor Lane, Rockville, MD 20852 (US). BLAKE, Trevor [US/US]; 19814 Falling Spring Court, Laytonsville, MD 20882 (US). LIU, P., Paul [US/US]; 7725 Blueberry Hill Lane, Elli-

cott City, MD 21043 (US). FISCHEL-GHODSIAN, Nathan [US/US]; Unit 104, 2122 Century Park Lane, Los Angeles, CA 90067 (US). GUMUCIO, Deborah, L. [US/US]; University of Michigan, Dept. of Anatomy and Cell Biology, 5793A Medical Sciences II, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-0616 (US). RICHARDS, Robert, I. [AU/AU]; 228 Brougham Place, North Adelaide, S.A. 5006 (AU). RICKE, Darrell, O. [US/US]; 4498A Fairway Drive, Los Alamos, NM 87544 (US). DOGGETT, Norman, A. [US/US]; P.O. Box 839, Santa Cruz, NM 87567 (US). PRAS, Mordechai [IL/IL]; Heller Institute of Medical Research, Chaim Sheba Medical Center, 52621 Tel-Hashomer (IL).

- (74) Agent: BRUESS, Steven, C.; Merchant, Gould, Smith, Edell, Welter & Schmidt, P.A., 3100 Norwest Center, 90 South Seventh Street, Minneapolis, MN 55402-4131 (US).
- (81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AT (Utility model), AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, CZ (Utility model), DE, DE (Utility model), DK, DK (Utility model), EE, EE (Utility model), ES, FI, FI (Utility model), GB, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SK (Utility model), SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published

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Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(54) Title: THE PYRIN GENE AND MUTANTS THEREOF, WHICH CAUSE FAMILIAL MEDITERRANEAN FEVER

(57) Abstract

The invention provides the nucleic acid sequence encoding the protein associated with familial Mediterranean fever (FMF). The cDNA sequence is designated as MEFV. The invention is also directed towards fragments of the DNA sequence, as well as the corresponding sequence for the RNA transcript and fragments thereof. Another aspect of the invention provides the amino acid sequence for a protein (pyrin) associated with FMF. The invention is directed towards both the full length amino acid sequence, fusion proteins containing the amino acid sequence and fragments thereof. The invention is also directed towards mutants of the nucleic acid and amino acid sequences associated with FMF. In particular, the invention discloses three missense mutations, clustered in within about 40 to 50 amino acids, in the highly conserved rfp (B30.2) domain at the C-terminal of the protein. These mutants include M680I, M694V, K695R, and V726A. Additionally, the invention includes methods for diagnosing a patient at risk for having FMF and kits therefor.

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